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September 21, 2001

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**Box PATENT APPLICATION**  
**Assistant Commissioner for Patents**  
**Washington, DC 20231**

New U.S. Patent Application  
Title: METHODS AND DEVICES FOR FOLDING  
AND SECURING TISSUE

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Sir:

We enclose the following papers for filing in the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above patent application.

1. Application- 75 pages, including 1 abstract page, cover page, 12 independent claims and 119 claims total.
2. Drawings- 16 sheets of drawings (Figures 1-28).

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Applicant claims the right to priority based on Provisional Patent Application No. 60/234,360 filed September 22, 2000.

Please address all correspondence with respect to this application to:

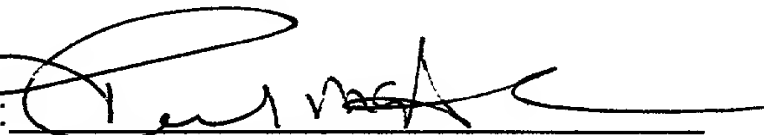
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This application is being filed under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(f).  
Applicants await notification from the Patent and Trademark Office of the time set for  
paying the filing fee and filing the Declaration.

Please accord this application an application number and filing date and return to the undersigned the attached postcard indicating this information.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
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By: 

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RGM  
Enclosures

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